

Amendments to the Claims - All Claims are set forth in accordance with the new Response Format. All amendments presented in the Response of March 18, 2005 are included.

Claims 1 through 4 and 6 (withdrawn through election).

5. (Previously amended) A putter training apparatus of claim 12 further comprising:

a. the grip clip means (40) hinge means (42) for fixedly setting the angular relationship (110) between the putter lower shaft (72) and the upper shaft (10).

7. (Currently amended) A method of training a golfer in putting or of putting by means of the golf putter training apparatus of claim 13 comprising the steps of:

a. receiving the ~~upper shaft (10)~~ apparatus (5) at the grip clip (40) via the grip clip slot (42) by the putter lower shaft (72) intermediate the putter head (100) and the golf putter grip (75) and moving the ~~upper shaft (10)~~ apparatus (5) to grip affixing means contact of the grip clip (40) with the golf putter grip (75);

b. affixing the angular relationship (110) between the putter lower shaft (72) and the ~~upper shaft (10)~~ apparatus (5) by adjusting the hinge means (42);

c. positioning the upper shaft first end (20) in contact with the golfer's neck (21);

d. training the golfer to execute the proper putting stroke and or making a putting stroke by the golfer sensing and retaining the upper shaft first end (20) in contact with the golfer's neck (21) throughout the putting stroke.

Claim 8. (Previously amended 3/18/05) A putter training apparatus comprising:

a. an apparatus (5) upper shaft (10) having an apparatus upper shaft first end (20), a counter weight (22) proximal the upper shaft first end (20); said upper shaft (10)

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1 having adequate length to contact the side of the player's neck;

2 b. an apparatus upper shaft second end (30); grip clip means (40) affixed with
3 hinge means (42) at the apparatus upper shaft second end (30).

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5 Claim 9. (Previously added) A putter training apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

6 a. the grip clip means (40) receives a golf putter (70) having a golf putter lower
7 shaft (72); the golf putter lower shaft (72) having a golf putter lower shaft first end (80)
8 and a golf putter lower shaft second end (90); the lower shaft (72) having a shaft
9 dimension D3 (54);

10 b. a golf putter head (100) affixed by golf club head affixing means at the golf
11 putter lower shaft second end (90); a golf putter grip (75) is received at the golf putter
12 lower shaft first end (80); the golf putter grip (75) having a dimension D4 (64) greater
13 than shaft dimension D3 (54).

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15 Claim 10. (Previously added) A putter training apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:

16 a. the apparatus upper shaft (10), golf putter lower shaft and golf putter grip (75)
17 are generally tubular having a variety of cross sections;

18 b. the grip clip means (40) generally comprises a tubular member means (42)
19 having a grip clip first end (50) and a grip clip second end (60);

20 c. the tubular member means (42) having a hinge means (42) affixed by hinge
21 affixing means intermediate the grip clip first end (50) and the grip clip second end (60)
22 at a tubular member means wall (43) at an outer surface (44).

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24 Claim 11. (Currently amended) A putter training apparatus of claim 10 further
25 comprising:

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1 a. the hinge means (42) affixed by hinge affixing means at the apparatus second
2 end (30) providing hinge interaction between the apparatus shaft (10) and the grip clip
3 means (40);

4 b. hinge affixing means ~~may be by~~ formation of hinge leaves via injection
5 molding or metal formation from rigid materials including plastics[,] and ~~metals and~~
6 ~~other equivalent materials~~; hinge means regarding the rotation of one hinge leaf relative
7 to another hinge leaf may be by a bolt received via apertures in the hinge leaf aligned with
8 apertures in the apparatus upper shaft (10) proximal the apparatus second end (30) and
9 secured by a nut or by a leaf structure formed in a generally tubular form which is
10 received by the apparatus second end (30) and which has hinge interconnection means
11 relative to a second leaf structure;

12 c. the upper shaft (10) and putter lower shaft (72) comprise shaft means and are
13 generally formed from a rigid material, tubular in structure formed from plastics,
14 composite materials[,] and ~~metals and other equivalent materials~~.

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16 Claim 12. (Previously added) A putter training apparatus of claim 11 further comprising:

17 a. a grip clip slot (65) in the wall (43) from the grip clip first end (20) to the grip
18 clip second end (30) wherein the slot (65) has a grip clip slot dimension D5 (66) which is
19 greater than a putter shaft dimension D3 (54) and which is sized to receive a golf putter
20 shaft (72) intermediate the golf putter head (100) and the golf putter grip (75);

21 b. the grip clip slot dimension D5 (66) has a dimension less than the dimension of
22 the golf putter grip dimension D4 (64); the grip clip first end dimension D1 (52) is less
23 than the grip clip second end dimension D2 (62); the grip clip first end dimension D1 (52)
24 and the grip clip second end dimension D2 (62) is sized to receive the golf putter grip
25 (75) and to be affixed by grip affixing means at the golf putter grip (75).

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1 Claim 13. (Currently amended) A putter training apparatus of claim 12 further
2 comprising:

3 a. the grip affixing means to affix the grip clip means (40) includes friction fitting
4 by the grip clip first end dimension D1 (52) being less than the grip clip second end
5 dimension D2 (62) and the golf putter grip dimension D4 (64), proximal the apparatus
6 first end (20) being greater than the grip clip second end dimension D2 (62);

7 b. the grip affixing means to affix the grip clip means (40) also includes other
8 forms of gripping including a spring secured clam shell structure allowing the grip clip
9 means (40) to be opened to allow the grip clip slot (65) to receive a golf putter grip (75)
10 and other similar friction affixing and or clamp affixing structures.

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12 Claim 14. (Previously added) A putter training apparatus of claim 13 further comprising:

13 a. the apparatus (5) at the grip clip slot (65) will receive either the apparatus shaft
14 (10) to slide up the apparatus shaft (10) toward the apparatus first end (20) and receive
15 and be affixed at the golf putter grip (75) or the grip clip slot (65) will receive the golf
16 putter grip (75) and be affixed by affixing means for use in putting.

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